

*Descriptions of new Coleoptera belonging to the families
PSEPHENIDÆ and CYPHONIDÆ; by CHAS. O. WATERHOUSE.*

Recently I have met with a new species of the genus *Psephenus*, below described; and as the question of the relationship between the *Parnidæ* and *Cyphonidæ* through *Psephenus* and *Eubria* is very interesting, I take the opportunity of describing three new genera, which I consider undoubtedly belong the *Eubriinæ*, but which have much in common with *Tychepsephus*, placed by myself in the *Psephenidæ*. These three new genera, as well as most of the species of *Scirtes* here described, were received by the British Museum from Mr. Bowring.

Psephenus Darwinii, n. sp.

Fuscus, sat nitidus, subtilissime pilosus: thoracis angulis posticis acutis, pedibus sordide testaceis. Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Closely resembles *P. Lecontei*, but is at once distinguished by the thorax being broadest at the posterior angles, which are moreover very acute. The apical joint of the maxillary palpi much smaller than in *P. Lecontei*. Thorax gently convex, very finely and very closely punctured, bisinuate at the base. Elytra densely and finely punctured, with traces of three or four obtuse costæ on each.

Hab. Rio Janeiro.

A single example taken by Mr. Charles Darwin in May, 1832, during the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle; it has the following note respecting it, "habits the same as *Elmis*, living under stones in running water."

SCHINOSTETHUS, n. gen.

General form of *Eubria*. Lobes of the maxillæ slender, acuminate, the outer one twice as long as the inner; the inner lobe more penicillate: maxillary palpi rather large, penultimate joint cylindrical, one-third longer than broad; the

apical joint not quite twice as long as the previous joint, triangular, emarginate at the apex, the outer angle rather more prominent than the inner one. Apical joint of the labial palpi subparallel, truncate, or *very* slightly emarginate at the apex. Basal joint of the antennæ* obconic, the second round, the third elongate, the fourth joint one-third shorter than the third, broader at its apex, the following joints of about the same length as the fourth, but with the internal angle much more angularly produced. Prosternum produced posteriorly between the coxæ, gradually acuminate. Mesosternum horizontal, a little longer than broad, with an impression in front for the reception of the prosternal process. Abdomen with five segments, the margins of the first four segments straight, the apical segment semicircular. Legs slender; tarsi long and slender, the second, third and fourth joints subequal, about half the length of the first, the fifth joint as long as the three basal joints together; claws a little dilated at their base. Body below finely pilose.

Very close to *Eubria*, but without impressed lines on the elytra, with more simple palpi, &c.

Schinostethus nigricornis, n. sp.

Ferrugineus, supra rufo-ferrugineus, opacus, convexus; antennis nigris, thorace basi subtiliter serrato-marginata. Long. 2 lin.

Very convex, rusty yellowish-red. Antennæ black, except the two basal joints. Forehead with a slight longitudinal impressed line. Thorax very convex, semicircular in outline, truncate in front, when seen from above, twice as broad at the base as in front; arcuate at the sides, with a blunt oblique impression at the base, on each side of the middle; the base is nearly straight, only very slightly sinuate on each side: the angles are nearly right angles; the whole basal margin is very finely crenulate, and there is similar crenulation along the base of the elytra and scutellum. The scutellum is nearly an equilateral triangle. Elytra broadest rather behind the middle, together obtusely rounded at the apex, the lateral margins near the shoulder a little impressed above. The metathoracic episterna are rather strongly and moderately thickly punctured. All the underside of the insect is exceedingly finely pilose.

* The specimens in the Museum may be females.

The upper surface of the thorax, scutellum and elytra is clothed with a dull film, somewhat of the nature of that which clothes the species of *Lixus*, and to which the term *furfurosus* is usually applied.

Hab. N. China (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

HOMEOGENUS, n. gen.

Apical joint of the maxillary palpi elongate, subparallel, flattened towards the apex, which is truncate or very slightly arcuate. The apical joint of the labial palpi is rather longer than broad, obliquely arcuate at the apex. Prosternum produced between the coxæ, very acute at the apex. Mesosternum sloping down, almost hollowed out between the coxæ. Tarsi slender, the fourth joint much smaller than the preceding joint. Second and third segments of the abdomen very slightly sinuous at the sides.

Very close to *Schinostethus*, from which I have separated it, on account of the apex of the apical joint of the maxillary palpi being arcuate instead of emarginate: the mesosternum is sloping and the fourth joint of the tarsi very small. The specimen is possibly a female.

Homogenus punctatum, n. sp.

Nigrum, convexum, nitidum, subtilissime pilosum; antennarum basi, femoribusque plus minusve flavo-testaceis, thorace elytrisque sat fortiter punctatis. Long. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

General form of *Eubria palustris*; the antennæ nearly the same, but with the joints a little more elongate; the two basal joints pale. Thorax as in that species, but strongly and rather thickly punctured, less thickly on the disc; there is an impression on each side of the middle of the base, and the anterior angles, which are yellow, are also impressed above; the posterior angles are more rounded than in *E. palustris*; all the basal margin has the same fine crenulate appearance as in *Schinostethus*, but not so distinctly visible. Scutellum subequilateral, moderately thickly punctured. Elytra strongly and thickly punctured. Anterior border of the prosternum, the coxæ and femora pale yellow: the posterior femora dusky yellow; tarsi fuscous.

Hab. China (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

COPHÆSTHETUS, n. gen.

General form of *Eubria* but a little more oblong. ♂ Antennæ with the fifth to tenth joints with the inner apical angle produced into a long thick branch; the eleventh joint very long, having the form of the branch of the tenth. Apical joint of the maxillary palpi elongate, subparallel, the apex flattened, very slightly arcuate, almost truncate. The apical joint of the labial palpi is similar, but less elongate. Prosternal process a little enlarged at its apex, obtuse. Mesosternum horizontal, emarginate in front to receive the prosternal process. The rest as in *Schinostethus*.

The form of the apical joint of the palpi, and the blunt prosternal process are the characters upon which I separate this from *Schinostethus*: the difference in the structure of the antennæ may be only sexual.

Cophæsthetus opacus, n. sp.

Oblongus, convexus, opacus, fuscus; thoracis lateribus ferrugineis, prosterno pedibusque flavo-ferrugineis. Long. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Antennæ with the two basal joints pitchy. All the upper surface of the insect opaque, with very short close pubescence, only visible with a high magnifying power. Thorax nearly as in *Eubria palustris*, but with the sides rather more arcuate, and more semicircularly emarginate in front; there is a slight impression on each side of the middle of the base; the posterior angles are a trifle less than right angles; the basal margin has the same serrate appearance as in *Schinostethus* but in a less marked manner. Scutellum nearly an equilateral triangle. Elytra dark fuscous, the fine pubescence rather paler: the surface posteriorly is finely vermiculate; the pubescence shows itself particularly in two narrow curved lines on the back, arising in the middle of the base, and turning towards the suture of the elytra.

Hab. Java (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

A single example only, not in perfect condition. I have, however, described it on account of its great interest, as having the antennæ branched as in some *Cyphonilar*, but undoubtedly closely allied to *Schinostethus*, which closely approaches *Tychopsephus*, placed by me in the *Psephenida*. I cannot, however, alter my opinion as to the position of *Tychopsephus*, which has the prosternum produced anteriorly, so as partly to cover the lower part of the head as in *Parnus*,—a character wanting in *Schinostethus*.

Scirtes nigricans, n. sp.

Fusco-niger, breviter ovalis, convexus, griseo-pubescens, creberrime punctulatus, tibiis fuscis. Long. $1\frac{1}{3}$ lin.

This is very close to *S. hemisphæricus*. It is the same blackish colour, and is nearly the same form. It is, however, smaller and shorter, and has the longer spur to the posterior tibia about two-thirds the length of the basal joint of the tarsus. The punctuation appears the same throughout. The antennæ are sordid testaceous, and the apex of the femora and the tibiæ are the same colour or pale fuscous.

Hab. China (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

A specimen marked "Java" has the legs nearly the same colour as the rest of the insect.

Scirtes elegans, n. sp.

Flavo-testaceus, flavo-pilosus; capite piceo, clytris basi maculisque sex piceo-nigris. Long. 1 lin.

Var. Fuscus; elytrorum disco sordide flavo.

Much flatter and rather narrower than *S. hemisphæricus*. Antennæ dusky towards the apex. Thorax pale yellow, shining, not quite so convex as in *hemisphæricus*, rather more transverse, the base regularly arcuate and not bowed out in the middle; the punctuation as on the disc of *hemisphæricus*, equally distributed throughout. The elytra are very finely, regularly and delicately punctured; the punctures are perhaps not less numerous than in *hemisphæricus*, but being finer they appear a little less close; there is a fuscous band at the base; a trapezoidal spot on the margin, about the middle, whence the margin is fuscous to the apex, where it dilates, the fuscous colour then ascends the suture for a short distance and forms a triangular spot, from the outer angle of which a fine line is emitted to join with the original lateral spot, the suture itself is pale. Abdomen pitchy.

Hab. Penang (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

Var. With the two specimens above described is a third, which at first sight appeared to be a distinct species, but which I nevertheless believe only to be a variety. It differs in having the whole upper surface dark fuscous, with the exception of a sordid yellow patch on the disc of the elytra.

Scirtes maculatus, n. sp.

Piceus, nitidus; elytris ochraceis, singulis maculis quinque picco-nigris. Long. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Form of *S. hemisphaericus*, but a trifle broader across the middle. Thorax the same as in that species, with not very close but distinct punctuation. Elytra yellow, the punctuation like that in *hemisphaericus* but not quite so close. Each elytron has five rather large blackish-brown spots: one near the middle of the base; an oblong one close to the suture, attached by one angle to the basal spot, and united at its apical angle with a large round spot on the margin; there is an ovate spot close to the apex, more or less joined to a transverse spot at the apical margin.

Hab. India.

Scirtes quadrimaculatus, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovalis, nitidus, piceus, fulvo-flavo-pilosus; elytris rufo-piceis, maculis quatuor nigris notatis. Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Regularly oblong-ovate, moderately convex, dark pitchy. Antennae black, a little pitchy at the base. Thorax not quite so transverse as in *S. hemisphaericus*, the anterior angles a little more directed forwards; the punctuation very close, but not crowded, and although fine is very distinct when the pubescence is removed. The elytra are pitchy-red, clothed with yellowish fawn-coloured pubescence: the punctuation is like that on the thorax, but rather stronger; rather behind the middle there is a large quadrangular black spot, touching the margin, but not reaching the suture; and at the apex there is another spot, more rounded, also touching the margin but not the suture. The hind femora are dark pitchy, the impressions above at the apex are rather deep, and there is a deep incision near the apex at the posterior margin; the longer spur to the tibia is about two-thirds the length of the basil joint of the tarsus.

Hab. Burmah (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

Scirtes costulatus, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovalis, pallide piceus, griso-flavo-pubescentis; antennis nigris, elytris singulis costis tribus obtusis. Long. $2\frac{3}{4}$ lin.

This species has somewhat the appearance of *Cypon courletius*, but is rather flatter and relatively a trifle broader. The antennae are black with the three basal joints ferruginous. The thorax

is as in *S. hemisphæricus*, but rather less convex, very thickly and moderately strongly punctured. The elytra are very thickly and moderately strongly punctured towards the base; towards the apex the punctuation is finer; and the subapical region near the suture is highly polished and very sparingly punctured; each elytron has four very obtuse, only slightly raised ridges; the first terminates in the subapical smooth part; the second and third are continued nearly to the apex, the space between them slightly concave, the fourth, not very distinct near the shoulder, becomes much stronger posteriorly, and again diminishes at the apex.

Hab. Penang (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

Scirtes æqualis, n. sp.

Pallide piceus; antennis nigris, elytris sordide flavis, creberrime punctatis. Long. $2\frac{2}{3}$ lin.

This species resembles the last; the elytra, however, are paler yellow, and the costæ can scarcely be traced, the punctuation is very close and rather strong, and is nearly equal all over. The antennæ are black, with the three basal joints pale. The larger spur to the hind tibia is strong, about two-thirds the length of the first tarsal joint, curved at its apex.

Hab. Borneo (Wallace).

Scirtes uniformis, n. sp.

Ovalis, nitidus, flavus, subtiliter pubescens. Long. $2\frac{1}{4}$ lin.

Very shining, uniform sordid yellow. Relatively narrower than *S. æqualis*, and more narrowed posteriorly. The thorax is a little narrower, convex; the punctuation is moderately strong, moderately thick, but not at all crowded, much less thick than in *æqualis*. The elytra are decidedly more attenuated posteriorly, evenly convex, not costate; moderately strongly and thickly punctured, the punctures not so crowded as in *æqualis*. The longer spur to the hind tibia is more slender than in that species.

Hab. Borneo (Wallace).

Scirtes irregularis, n. sp.

Sat depressus, flavus, nitidus, brevissime pilosus, guttis numerosis piceis adpersus. Long. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin., lat. $1\frac{1}{4}$.

This species is of peculiar form. It is broadest behind the middle of the elytra, narrowed anteriorly; somewhat depressed, but the elytra are rather more convex behind the middle. Head with two pale brown spots between the eyes. Thorax very transverse, not much convex, not nearly so much deflexed at the sides and anterior angles as in *S. hemisphaericus*; with some dusky marks and spots; the punctuation is very fine and extremely close; the sides are almost rectilinear, or only in the slightest degree arcuate; the base is nearly straight at the scutellum, slightly oblique on each side of it. The scutellum is punctured in the same way as the thorax. Elytra each with about five lines of small, round, brown dots; the surface is rather uneven, the scutellar region is impressed, and about the middle of each elytron may be traced two short obscure costæ; the punctuation is irregular, rather strong and moderately close, but the punctures are uneven in form; the margin seen from the side, is rather unusually sinuous about the middle, as if to give freedom of action to the hind femora. The longer spur to the hind tibia is about half the length of the basal joint of the tarsi.

Hab. Java (J. C. Bowering, Esq.).

Scirtes scriceus, n. sp.

Elliptico-ovalis, leviter convexus, pallide piceus, flavo-pubescentis; capite thoraceque piceis, elytris æqualibus, creberrime punctatis. Long. 2 lin.

Rather narrow and regularly elliptical ovate. Thorax as in *S. hemisphaericus*, and the punctuation is similar except that it is much stronger. The scutellum is thickly and finely punctured. Elytra long, attenuated very gradually towards the apex, evenly convex; the punctuation is even, very close (but not crowded), and moderately strong. The head and thorax are pitchy; the elytra are pale pitchy-brown, becoming yellowish towards the apex. The longer spur of the hind tibia is about two-thirds the length of the basal joint of the tarsi.

Hab. Siam (J. C. Bowering, Esq.).

This species is allied most nearly to *S. æqualis*, but is much more elliptical in form and narrower.

Scirtes marginatus, n. sp.

Elliptico-ovalis, depressus, nitidus, piceus, pubescens; elytrorum disco, corpore subtus pedibusque sordide flavis. Long. $1\frac{3}{4}$ lin.

Most nearly resembles *S. sericeus* in form, but is more depressed and has the elytra more attenuated towards the apex. Antennæ blackish, with the three basal joints yellow. Head and thorax pitchy; the latter paler at the lateral margins, rather distinctly lobed in the middle of the base; anterior angles deflexed, not at all prominent, rather obtuse; the punctuation on the disc is half as close again as in *S. hemisphericus*, and distinctly stronger; but towards the sides it is much more delicate. The elytra are pale pitchy-yellow, with a broad margin of dark brown; the punctuation is very close but not crowded, moderately fine, and not well defined; as compared with that in *hemisphericus*, the punctuation is a little less close and distinctly less strong.

Hab. India.

Scirtes elongatus, n. sp.

Elongatus, fusco-piceus, nitidus, creberrime punctulatus; corpore subtus pedibusque pallide piceis. Long. $1\frac{3}{4}$ lin.

More elongate, and more parallel at the sides than any other species known to me, except the following new species. It is perhaps most nearly allied to *S. sericeus*, but is narrower and straighter at the sides. The punctuation of the thorax is very similar to that of the elytra in *S. hemisphericus*, but is a trifle less strong, and a little more clearly defined. The punctuation of the elytra is a little stronger than that of the thorax, and the punctures are not quite so close together. The pubescence is grey.

Hab. Hong Kong (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

Scirtes difficilis, n. sp.

Elongatus, flavescens, nitidus, creberrime punctulatus; elytrorum apice infuscato. Long. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

This species closely resembles *S. elongatus* in form. It differs in being pale pitchy-yellow, with the apex of the elytra fuscous; in having the anterior angles of the thorax acute and less turned down, the sides rather less strongly punctured, and the base less distinctly lobed in the middle. The punctuation of the elytra is the same. The antennæ are dusky except at the extreme base.

Hab. Penang (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

Scirtes pallidus, n. sp.

Pallide picco-flavus, nitidus, griseo-pubescent, subtiliter crebre punctulatus. Long. $1\frac{1}{3}$ lin.

Somewhat the form of *S. hemisphaericus*, but with less prominent shoulders, and with the elytra more attenuated towards the apex. Pale pitchy-yellow, with fine yellowish-grey pubescence. The anterior angles of the thorax are not so much deflexed and are not at all prominent, and the base is more regularly arcuate; the punctuation is fine and very delicate, and distinctly closer. The punctuation of the elytra is the same as that of the thorax.

Hab. Penang (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

This species has much the appearance of *Rhizobius litura*.

There is a specimen from Siam which differs from the Penang example above described, in being relatively a little shorter, more rounded at the sides, and more obtuse at the apex of the elytra. The punctuation of the elytra appears a little stronger. This may prove to be distinct from *S. pallidus*, but I consider it better to regard it as a variety until I have more specimens for examination.

Scirtes pellucidus, n. sp.

Flavo-testaceus, nitida, pallide pubescens. Long. $1\frac{3}{5}$ lin.

Very close to *S. pallidus*, but a little longer, and a little more elongate. The punctuation of the thorax is like that on the disc of the thorax of *S. hemisphaericus*, (less distinct towards the sides), not so fine as in *pallidus*. The punctuation of the elytra is closer and much stronger than in *pallidus*; it is less strong and rather closer than in *hemisphaericus*, but resembles it in character.

Hab. Java (J. C. Bowring, Esq.).

Scirtes lutescens, n. sp.

Flavo-testaceus, pallide pubescens. Long. 1 lin.

Very pale yellow, depressed, rather broad elliptical-ovate; the head, underside of the body, and posterior femora very pale pitchy. The thorax is the same form as in *S. pellucidus*, but

the punctuation is much closer (rather irregular), and much stronger, close but not crowded, except here and there, and the punctures are as if made with a blunt point. The elytra are rather broad, but arcuately attenuated towards the apex; the punctuation (not forgetting the different sizes of the insects) is relatively the same as in *S. hemisphericus*.

Hab. Java (J. C. Bowering, Esq.).

Scirtes exoletus, n. sp.

Oblongo-ovalis, depressus, nitidus piceo-flavus; thorace maculis duabus basalibus piceis, scutello flavo. Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Rather depressed, sordid yellow. Head densely punctured, forehead with a shallow oblique impression on each side between the eyes, the vertex marked with pitchy. Thorax densely and rather strongly punctured, with a triangular pitchy spot on each side of the middle of the base, in front of each of which a small shallow fovea is seen; anterior angles rounded, the posterior angles also rounded but in a less degree. Elytra rather strongly and very thickly punctured, but the punctures are not crowded; two fine obtuse costæ may be traced on each elytron, and the sutural margin is also slightly raised.

Hab. W. Australia (Du Boulay).